

- For Immediate Release -

January 6, 2009

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Drugs Located in Abandoned Vehicle

On Jan. 4, 2009, at about 11:25 P.M., the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) received a call of a suspicious vehicle that had pulled abruptly in to the Gas City parking lot in Benson, Arizona. The vehicle, a 1997 Pontiac 4-door, had been abandoned. The officer ran his canine, "Mack", on the vehicle. The dog alerted to the presence of illegal drugs. The officer located 141 pounds of marijuana in the trunk. Officers from DPS and U.S. Border Patrol searched the area but the driver was not located. The investigation is ongoing

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The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agency in United States, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with some 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix with offices located in more than 30 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.